

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Second Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Second Essex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.9% (1,178) reside in the Second Essex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (224) of Second Essex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 75.2% of admissions from the Second Essex Representative District were male and 24.8% were female.
- Over 57.5% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 83.8% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.6% were black non-Latino, 11.0% were Latino, 0.2% were Asian, and 2.5% were other racial categories.
- 58.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 16.7% were married, and 15.1% reported not to be married now.
- 31.9% of admissions had less than high school education, 50.1% completed high school, and 18.0% had more than high school education.
- 41.0% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 9.5% of those admitted were homeless.
- 14.0% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

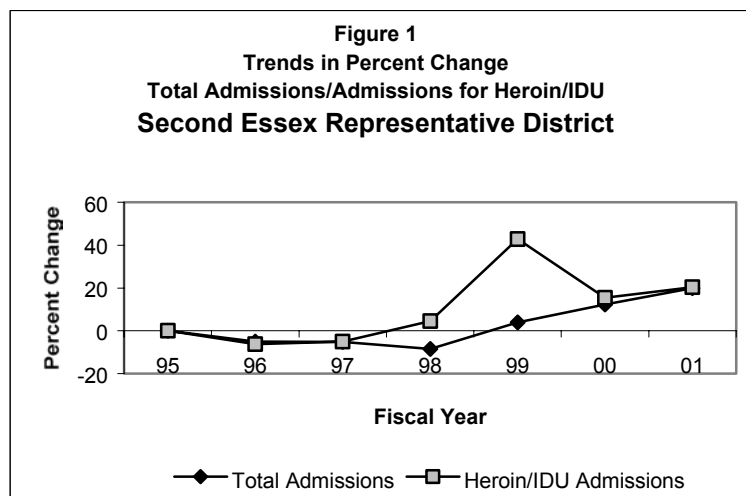
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Second Essex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Second Essex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	982	765	321	285	231	285	226
FY '96	932	722	283	242	165	273	206
FY '97	931	705	283	200	151	263	222
FY '98	898	661	251	185	109	294	240
FY '99	1,021	744	321	255	162	407	323
FY '00	1,103	813	323	238	162	341	249
FY '01	1,178	875	356	213	109	356	259

- Since dropping in FY 1998, residents of Second Essex Representative District reported a rise in alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine use. Alcohol use increased by 32%, marijuana by 41%, and cocaine use by 15%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by 24%, while crack use decreased by 52%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Second Essex Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 20% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 20%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Second Essex Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	49.4%	28.6%	14.1%	2.6%	2.3%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin, cocaine, and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and marijuana was higher within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000